

## Don't Let Graffiti Take Over Gresham

### Join or Form a Graffiti Removal Team

The City has created a program to help Gresham residents remove graffiti from their property or business if they are unable to remove the graffiti on their own.

Graffiti Removal Teams are made up of volunteers that are trained to remove graffiti. The City will provide your team the necessary training and supplies needed to remove graffiti safely throughout the city.

You can volunteer as an individual or as group. All interested people and groups are welcome to participate (service organizations, church groups, scouts, neighborhood associations, neighborhood watches, etc.).



Immediate removal - within 24-48 hours - is the key to successful graffiti prevention.



Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism (35%) according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

For more information on how to volunteer on a Graffiti Removal Team or ask for help from a Graffiti Removal Team, contact Cathy Harrington, Volunteer Coordinator, at 503-618-2482 or [volunteer@ci.gresham.or.us](mailto:volunteer@ci.gresham.or.us).

To report graffiti, call the Graffiti Information and Reporting Line, 503-618-3089.



1333 N.W. Eastman Parkway  
Gresham, OR 97030  
503-618-2482  
[volunteer@ci.gresham.or.us](mailto:volunteer@ci.gresham.or.us)

## Get Involved

No one is exempt from graffiti. Those that commit this offense are not particular to the location that they 'tag'. All citizens, businesses and the community suffer the cost. To become involved with the City of Gresham Graffiti Removal Team, contact Cathy Harrington at 503-618-2482.

*Taking back the city...one wall at a time!*



City of Gresham

# OFF THE WALL

Graffiti Prevention and  
Removal Safety Program

Graffiti Removal  
Team  
503-618-2482  
Graffiti  
Information and  
Reporting  
503-618-3089



# GET GRAFFITI...OFF THE WALL

## Prevent Graffiti

### WHO Can Prevent Graffiti?

You, by...

**Ongoing Upkeep** — Keep your property clean and neat.

**Promptly Remove Graffiti** — Property owners are responsible for removal of graffiti. Removal within 24 to 48 hours significantly reduces the chance of reoccurrence. Use graffiti resistant materials or coatings on a chronically tagged wall.

#### Control Access

- ✦ Incorporate shrubs, thorny plants and vines to restrict vandal access.
- ✦ Use fences, controlled entrance and exits, rails, and other barriers.
- ✦ Limit access to roofs by moving dumpsters away from walls and covering drainpipes.

#### Step Up Security

- ✦ Add or improve lighting for natural surveillance.
- ✦ Install a security camera.
- ✦ Organize a Neighborhood/Business Watch.

#### Work With Neighbors

- ✦ Organize a Neighborhood Watch (call 503-618-2546).
- ✦ Create a paint bank with shared paints and equipment.

## Report Graffiti

Wherever you see graffiti – on your property, on others' private property, on public property – report it!

Notify the authorities — Reporting graffiti to the police aids tracking and prosecution of vandals.

- ✦ Call 911 to report graffiti in progress, or
- ✦ Call Gresham Police Non-Emergency at 503-823-3333 to report graffiti on your property for insurance claim purposes; and then
- ✦ Call Gresham's Graffiti Information and Reporting Line at 503-618-3089 to report graffiti.

Take a picture of the graffiti and email it to [codeenforcement@ci.gresham.or.us](mailto:codeenforcement@ci.gresham.or.us) with an address (as near as possible) for the location of the graffiti.

- ✦ Digital, if possible
- ✦ Keep a copy for your insurance records if the graffiti is on your property

### WHO Is Responsible For Graffiti Removal?

- ✦ Graffiti on private property — The property owner is responsible to remove the graffiti within 10 days.
- ✦ Graffiti on utilities — City staff removes graffiti on public utilities.
- ✦ Graffiti on public property — City staff removes graffiti on public property (buildings, signs, streets, power poles, barricades, mail boxes, etc.).

## Remove Graffiti



First...take a picture of the graffiti and email it to [codeenforcement@ci.gresham.or.us](mailto:codeenforcement@ci.gresham.or.us).

### WHO Can Help Me Remove Graffiti?

Free graffiti removal kits are available at City Hall.

For free graffiti removal assistance, contact the City Graffiti Removal Team at 503-618-2482.

### HOW to Remove Graffiti

Contact the City for a brochure with additional information on how to safely removing graffiti - safe for you and safe for the environment.

Many graffiti removal and restoration efforts can leave surfaces looking as bad, or worse, than before the work began. To ensure successful removal and protect surfaces from further graffiti:

- ✦ Identify the surface type and substance to be removed.
- ✦ Select the appropriate removal method.
- ✦ Apply a protective coating.



"We are sick and tired of vandals leaving their ugly marks on our community," said Mayor Shane T. Bemis

### Report Graffiti

Graffiti Information and Reporting.....503-618-3089  
Code Enforcement Violation Reporting.....503-618-2463  
Gang Task Force.....503-666-1844

[www.askGresham.com](http://www.askGresham.com)

### Remove Graffiti

While most graffiti is applied with spray paint, graffiti vandals also use markers, adhesives (stickers), shoe polish, lip stick, stencils and etching products. The length of time graffiti has been on a surface usually impacts how easily it can be removed--the longer, the more difficult.